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Review of DOD's Polygraph Examiner Training Activities

Section 1016 of the Omnibus Defense Authorization Act for 1985, in addition to authorizing the Department's polygraph test program in fiscal year 1985, directs that GAO evaluate the effectiveness of DOD's training program for polygraph examiners.

We are attempting to develop an approach to evaluating the effectiveness of DOD's training program and we plan to visit the Army's polygraph school at Ft. McClellan in late August. An understanding of other training programs and discussions with experts could help us in this effort and, prior to that visit, we are contacting the other two government agencies that have polygraph examiner training schools—CIA and FBI—and the American Polygraph Association. In this regard we would like to discuss CIA's approach to training polygraph examiners with knowledgeable CIA personnel.

GAO's Security and International Relations Group is conducting three interrelated assignments addressing U.S. objectives and military requirements in South and Southwest Asia and the Horn of Africa, with particular emphasis on U.S. security assistance programs (economic and military aid and military cash sales):

- (1) GAO is reviewing U.S. requirements for and initiatives taken and proposed to obtain military access to Southwest Asia. While the review covers USCENTCOM's area of responsibility (19 countries) and Israel, the emphasis is on Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Oman, and Saudi Arabia. Overall, we plan to address
 - --U.S. objectives in the region,
 - --threat scenarios for the region that may require U.S. involvement,
 - --roles and capabilities of the regional states to deal with threat scenarios,
 - -- the use of security assistance as an "instrument of foreign policy" in obtaining U.S. military access to the region and/or cooperation of the regional states; and
 - --regional states' capabilities to absorb and maintain U.S. provided military equipment.
- (2) GAO has been requested by the Chairman, Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, House Committee on Foreign Affairs, to report on proposed major sales to the region and how they address U.S. objectives, their possible effect

on the regional arms balance, and the military capabilities of the states involved.

(3) GAO has also been requested by a member of Congress to answer 13 questions concerning Saudi Arabia (attached). DOD/ISA/NESA is preparing a response to these, but GAO is also interested in CIA's view. Specifically, several questions (1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9) require evaluation of intelligence information to answer fully.

The GAO has assigned one review team to do the above work requirements. The scope of the work may require several meetings with CIA analysts. Because of time constraints, the GAO has requested that, if at all possible, the CIA meet with the GAO representatives during the week of August 12, 1985.

